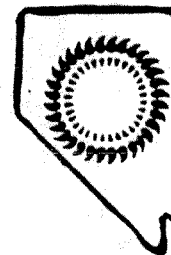


NEVADA CLIMATE SUMMARY



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SYNOPSIS

September was a little warmer and a lot drier than normal over most of Nevada. Only a few locations in the Northeast had above normal precipitation while many reporting sites had no rain this month. Temperatures averaged 2-4 degrees above normal at most locations. This was also an unusually sunny September in all but the Northeast, where temperatures were a little cooler than normal.

TEMPERATURE

With the exception of some of the East and Northeast it was a warm September. Laughlin reached 115 (3 degrees below the September record set at Rioville in 1888), and Echo Bay 113. In the usually cool Northeast Charleston fell to 7 degrees, Boies Ranch and Wildhorse Reservoir 10, and San Jacinto 12 degrees. Carlin had zero in September 1895.

PRECIPITATION

Only scattered locations in the Northeast had more rain than usual. Oasis had about twice normal with 1.65", Arthur had 1.43" or 1 & 1/2 times normal, and Clover Valley 1.22". Many areas had no rain. In Reno it was the first completely dry September since 1974.

SUNSHINE, WIND & EVAPORATION

Sunshine hours were well above normal in all but the Northeast, while wind speeds were lower than normal, and evaporation near normal for September. Some evaporation totals were 6.91" at Honey Lake Fleming, 6.17" at Gund Ranch, 6.12 at Fallon, 5.85 at UNR, 4.62" at Minden, and 6.14 at Shoshone.

THE 1994-95 WATER YEAR

In an unusual climate occurrence, virtually all areas of the eight Western States enjoyed a wet Water Year (Oct. 1, 1994 - Sept. 30, 1995). In Nevada it was generally the wettest year since 1982-83, and one of the wettest on record. For example, at Reno, the 11.95" total was the 6th wettest in 125 years of record (16.39" fell in 1889-90 and 12.72" in 1982-83).

Statewide, the wettest area in Nevada other than the upper east slopes of the Sierra Nevada, were the Ruby Mountains and nearby East Humboldt Range where 40 - 50" of precipitation fell above the 7500 foot level. In fact, a seasonal storage gage at Angel Lake, (8000' elevation south of Wells) recorded 51.45", about 1 & 1/2 times normal. The second wettest areas were the Santa Rosa Mountains near Paradise Valley with 39.58" at 7600 foot Hinkey Summit, and the Snake Range where 38.52" fell at the 10,000' level of Great Basin National Park. These figures were also about 1 & 1/2 times normal. In the South, at 8400 feet on Mt. Charleston 36.60" fell at Lee Canyon, with 35.10" at 7500' Kyle Canyon. "Normal" is about 20".

On the dry side Las Vegas had only 5.04", but this was still 130% of normal, and Overton 5.93" (also 130% of normal).

A general regional breakdown of the wet 1994-95 Water Year (see map) shows a range from over 160% of normal precipitation at several locations throughout the State, including portions of the Northeast, the East slope of the Sierra Nevada and scattered locations in Western and Southern Nevada, to less than 110% in the extreme Northeast corner of the State and Central Nevada. Most of the State logged between 140 - 150% of normal.

NOTE: Many thanks to **Dwight Blevins** for his work with the Nevada Climate Stations Map. This is the finest published State map in use.

NOTE: Welcome to the Montgomery Pass Lodge and Casino, where the official weather station in that corner of Nevada is now located.

John W. James
State Climatologist

Aury Smith is a long time resident of the Vya area in extreme Northwestern Nevada near Cedarville, Ca. He and his family have a large cattle ranch at this 5700 foot location. Aury who was a buckaroo for many years, remembers walking alongside his father's wagon train in the move from Utah to Nevada early this century.

Many thanks for being one of Nevada's
best weather observers, Aury!



NEVADA
CLIMATE STATIONS